

To: Progeess, Christina[Progeess.Christina@epa.gov]
From: Hanley, Jim
Sent: Tue 8/18/2015 2:01:07 PM
Subject: Fwd: Possible shut down??

This is what Moncino is thinking in case you talk him or Brad.

James Hanley

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Moncino, Keith" <moncino.keith@epa.gov>
Date: August 18, 2015 at 07:44:25 MDT
To: "Hanley, Jim" <Hanley.James@epa.gov>
Cc: "Powell, Jodi" <Powell.Jodi@epa.gov>, "Gottesman, Justin" <gottesman.justin@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Possible shut down??

Thanks for the info – been talking with Brad about this and work continuing this season and basic projections of expenditures. The big dilemma on my end – contract wise –is placing the funding on the contract and not having the need until next spring. I am concerned about the additional \$900,000 from the \$2.2m – DCN LRA804. We only put \$1.3m on contract due to ceilings and were going to put remaining on in September, after most was incurred. We also have the \$164,000 for the RD. If this funding will not be needed until next spring – I cannot put it on contract and tie up over \$1,000,000 of contract capacity – it would not allow me to place funding on contract for the R2 assignments.

So, what do you think will happen on the site, considering last year worked stopped end of September due to weather – it doesn't look like we will be able to complete the work as planned. When will there be a "smart" stopping point – meaning a good place to stop and start up next season. Will HDR be able to get the sampling done needed to be able to develop and complete the RD over the winter?

At a minimum, I think R8 has to consider taking the \$900,000 back, use on other sites this FY and re-procure next spring.

From: Hanley, Jim
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Moncino, Keith
Cc: Powell, Jodi
Subject: Re: Possible shut down??

One week to ten days on standby to allow site management team to collect additional information on the mine water hazard. HDR is instrumental in helping EPA collect that information for consideration by R8 management. This would not be the time to stop funding their subpool allocation.

James Hanley

On Aug 18, 2015, at 06:21, Moncino, Keith <moncino.keith@epa.gov> wrote:

What was the result? Would like to have a call with HDR to let them know please let me know if we can have a call and when. Would like to do it today

From: Powell, Jodi
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 2:39 PM
To: Moncino, Keith
Cc: Hanley, Jim
Subject: RE: Possible shut down??

Keith,

There is a call at 3:00 our time to discuss Standard Mine. I was told by my director, there will be some sort of RA work that will continue on the site. We should know today what that will entail. I will keep you posted.

Jodi Powell

Project Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8

1595 Wynkoop

Denver, CO 80202

(303) 312-6715

From: Moncino, Keith

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 6:41 AM

To: Powell, Jodi

Subject: FW: Possible shut down??

From: Williams, Bradley C. [<mailto:Bradley.Williams@hdrinc.com>]

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 8:38 AM

To: Moncino, Keith

Subject: Possible shut down??

See below...I haven't heard anything on

McCarthy: EPA Takes "Full Responsibility" For Colorado Mine Spill.

EPA Administrator McCarthy said Wednesday that her agency takes "'full responsibility' for the release of millions of gallons of toxic mine waste" at Colorado's Gold King Mine last week, the [Farmington \(NM\) Daily Times](#) (8/13, Smith, Garrison) reports. McCarthy said that "internal and independent reviews of the incident are underway and mine remediation operations throughout the country are being scrutinized to ensure they are being safely performed," adding that "the waters in La Plata County, Colo., have returned to pre-incident safety levels, and EPA staff are at Lake Powell in Arizona to monitor the impact as the plume of pollution arrives there." Said McCarthy, "Mine waste is under control at this point, as far as I know. ... The mine is being managed. My job is to manage the agency and the response and to ensure everyone that we will be fully accountable."

Kayna Whitworth reported on [ABC World News](#) (8/12, story 6, 1:30, Muir) McCarthy said "the situation is improving." McCarthy: "The levels have returned to pre-event conditions." Whitworth added that state officials have given "the green light tonight to begin treating and using water from the Animas River." Scott Pelley similarly reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/12, story 8, 1:50, Pelley) that water

quality in the river “is said to be back to what it was before three million gallons of toxic waste spilled last week,” but “the worries have not been washed away.” Mireya Villarreal added that while there has been “a lot of talk about making all of these Colorado mines a superfund site with the EPA...our experts say that solution probably isn’t the best one because the government just doesn’t have enough money to fix, treat, and then maintain all of these mines.”

Lester Holt noted on NBC Nightly News (8/12, story 5, 2:10, Holt) that the spill “spark[ed] fears that this is merely one of many more disasters waiting to happen.” Miguel Almaguer that many are calling it “the canary in the coalmine,” adding that there are “more than half a million abandoned mines across the country, 1,500 in the Animas River watershed alone.” Many “are still leaking toxic metals into rivers and streams.”

The Wall Street Journal (8/13, Harder, Berzon, Subscription Publication) says that in the wake of the Colorado accident, the EPA has suspended investigative field work at mine sites across the country. McCarthy said in a directive that the EPA is instructing its regions to stop such work “unless there is imminent risk.”